

On page 11, please delete the second paragraph and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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In Fig. 5, the picture signals 14 of the analog picture signal series distributed from the analog head ends 1A, 1B and 1C, and further, the picture signals 14 of the digital picture signal series which are transmitted via the analog head ends 1A, 1B and 1C from the digital head end 10 are distributed from a cable 3 to a tuner 20 for program and also to another tuner 21 for data.

On page 11, please delete the fourth paragraph and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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In the analog picture signal processing circuit 22A, an analog picture IF signal of the NTSC system outputted from the program tuner 20 is demodulated by an NTSC demodulator, and when the analog picture signal transmitted from the analog head end 1A is scrambled, this scrambled analog picture signal is descrambled by way of an analog descramble circuit, and thereafter the descrambled analog picture signal is entered into a CPU/Decoder 25 provided at a post stage.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Amended) A CATV conditional access system comprising a digital head end for transmitting picture signals of digital programs in a batch mode to terminals provided in a plurality of areas,

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wherein said digital head end transmits both an area code for every area and program data to the terminals employed in the plurality of areas, said area code being used to recognize such

an area to which each of the terminals belongs, and digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas being indicated for every area in said program data, and each of the terminals identifies said area code with said program data so as to exclude a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service in such an area to which the terminal belongs, from the picture signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end.

3. (Amended) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said terminal identifies said area code with said program data so as to exclude electronic program guide information related to the digital program of the not-yet-provided service from electronic program guide information transmitted from said digital head end.

4. (Amended) A CATV conditional access method comprising the steps of:
providing a digital head end for transmitting picture signals of digital programs to terminals provided in a plurality of areas;
transmitting both an area code for every area and program data to the terminals employed in the plurality of areas, said area code being used to recognize such an area to which each of the terminals belongs, and digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas being indicated for every area in said program data; and
identifying said area code with said program data so as to exclude a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service in such an area to which the terminal belongs, from the picture signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end.

Please add the following new claims:

150 5. (New) A CATV conditional access system comprising a digital head end for transmitting picture signals of digital programs to terminals provided in a plurality of areas, and a plurality of analog head ends in the respective areas, each analog head end transmitting both the picture signals of digital programs transmitted from the digital head end and picture signals of analog programs to terminals belonging to each area, wherein:

said digital head end transmits an area code allocated to each area to the terminals provided in each area, which is used to recognize an area to which each of the terminals belongs,

said digital head end transmits program data to the terminals provided in each area, which shows digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas,

wherein each of the terminals identifies said area code with said program data and excludes a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service from the picture signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end in such an area to which the terminal belongs.

6. (New) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said terminal identifies said area code with said program data so as not to display a picture of a relevant digital program by not demultiplexing a multiplexed picture signal of said relevant digital program among a plurality of multiplexed digital picture signals.

7. (New) The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said terminal identifies said area code with said program data so as to exclude electronic program

guide information related to the digital program of the not-yet-provided service from electric program guide information transmitted from said digital head end.

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Cont

8. (New) A CATV conditional access method comprising:

providing a digital head end for transmitting picture signals of digital programs to terminals provided in a plurality of areas,

providing a plurality of analog head ends in the respective areas, each analog head end transmitting both the picture signals of digital programs transmitted from the digital head end and picture signals of analog programs to terminals belonging to each area,

transmitting through said analog head ends an area code allocated to each area to the terminals provided in each area, which is used to recognize an area to which each of the terminals belongs,

transmitting program data to the terminals provided in each area, which shows digital programs of not-yet-provided services in the respective areas, and

identifying said area code with said program data so as to exclude a picture signal of a digital program of a not-yet-provided service from the picture signals of the digital programs transmitted from said digital head end in such an area to which the terminal belongs.